

**No. R-299. House concurrent resolution designating January 24–30, 2016 as National Nurse Anesthetists Week in Vermont.**

(H.C.R.225)

Offered by: Representatives Keenan of St. Albans City, Fagan of Rutland City, and Helm of Fair Haven

Whereas, nurse anesthetists were the first medical professionals to administer anesthesia in the United States, and they are the oldest recognized group of advance practice registered nurses, and

Whereas, nurse anesthetists complete a nationally accredited nurse anesthesia graduate program, qualifying them to take the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists' Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) exam, and

Whereas, recertification occurs every two years, and

Whereas, CRNAs practice in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered, including hospital surgical suites, obstetrical delivery rooms, critical care facilities, ambulatory surgical centers, individual dental and medical practitioners' offices, and U.S. military, the U.S. Public Health Service, and the Department of Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities, and

Whereas, since the Civil War, CRNAs have served as the primary wartime anesthesiology providers for U.S. military personnel, and

Whereas, CRNAs are the primary providers of anesthesia in rural America, enabling healthcare facilities in these medically underserved areas to offer obstetrical, surgical, and trauma stabilization services, and

Whereas, in some states, CRNAs are the sole providers in nearly 100 percent of the rural hospitals, and

Whereas, in Vermont, CRNAs provide anesthesia services in hospitals, medical facilities, including the White River Junction VA Medical Center, physician's offices, and to Vermont's active duty military personnel, and

Whereas, nine of the 13 Vermont hospitals offering surgical services rely on the professional support of CRNAs, and

Whereas, 47,000 CRNAs across the United States, including 45 in Vermont, are part of the economic solution to healthcare reform, and

Whereas, nationwide, the week of January 24–30, 2016 is being observed as National Nurse Anesthetics Week, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates the week of January 24–30 as National Nurse Anesthetists Week in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Association of Nurse Anesthetists.